- #8/ Amit A 20-30-02

JUL 1 8 2002

500.38174X00 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Y. TAKAHASHI, et al

Serial No.:

09/501,977

Filed:

February 11, 2000

For:

INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, INFORMATION

PROCESSING SYSTEM, AND STORAGE MEDIA

Group: 2812

Examiner:

S. Whitmore

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

July 18, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add new claims 14-21 as follows:

14. An information processing system, comprising:

a first input unit for receiving, from external of said information processing system, circuit information of a module constituting a semiconductor integrated circuit, a floorplan which is allocation information of blocks constituting the module, and evaluation indices for evaluating modifications of the floorplan,

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